

As is often the case in reading lives of holy people, we are filled with wonder at the immense amount they accomplish in their lifetime. Mother Mary of the Heart of Jesus is no exception, as witness the story of her two lengthy missionary journeys. If we add to all this her penances and mortifications, her sufferings, physical and mental, our wonder and admiration are even greater. When she died, some fifty years ago she left twelve convents. Now the Institute founded by this valiant woman possesses eighty-two houses, chiefly in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and India.

This last fact—the locality of the houses—is of great interest to English speaking Catholics. That an Institute, founded in France by a Frenchwoman who intensely disliked the idea of working in England, and then came to love the land and people where now the Mother House of her Institute is situated, is rewardable enough. That the work of an Institute of French origin should now be almost entirely in the far flung lands of the British Commonwealth of Nations is even more amazing. God willed it. God brought it about. It gives the work of the Institute of Our Lady of the Missions a special call upon our prayers. It gives us a will, as Dom Romanus Rios says in his foreword to the book, “to lend a hand in fostering the cause of the beatification of Mother Mary of the Heart of Jesus”.

The life contains a considerable number of really good photographic illustrations.
GILES BLACK, O.P.

PSALM CXIX. Arranged with comments for purposes of devotion. By Alfred Dru Drury, M.A. Church Literature Association; 1/-.

The author (a member of the Anglican Community of the Resurrection) has made a gallant attempt to provide a commentary at once simple and devotional on this longest of Psalms. (Vulgate CXVIII).

The very frequent reference to other parts of Holy Scripture is useful and quite admirable. The book should help the general body of Anglicans who are the Book of Common Prayer and also those Anglicans who live in Community and recite the Breviary or a translation thereof. The Psalms are themselves priceless for mental prayer and to be familiar with them by meditation makes them come alive when said chorally.

It is misleading to say that the power of prayer has been confirmed by modern psychology. (Commentary on verse 140).

J.B.

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